

House Resolution 1657

By: Representative Taylor of the 55th

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the life and memory of Mr. Joseph Daniel "Jody" Brooks and recognizing the
2 asthma research fundraiser held in his memory; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia mourns the loss of one of its most distinguished citizens
4 with the untimely passing of Mr. Joseph Daniel "Jody" Brooks on October 11, 2008, from
5 an asthma attack; and

6 WHEREAS, Mr. Brooks was born in Glendale, Arizona, on March 13, 1974, and was a
7 beloved son of Joseph and Beryl Brooks, step-son of Willie Goines, brother of Heidi and
8 Wendi Brooks, and step-brother of Nikki Goines; and

9 WHEREAS, diagnosed with asthma at an early age, Mr. Brooks never allowed his condition
10 to interfere with his desire to enjoy life to the fullest and excel in athletics; and

11 WHEREAS, Mr. Brooks graduated from Dorman High School in Spartanburg, South
12 Carolina, where he lettered in three sports, earned a bachelor's degree in exercise and sports
13 science from the University of South Carolina, and earned a master's degree in sports
14 medicine from Oregon State University; and

15 WHEREAS, a true citizen of the world, Mr. Brooks served as a Peace Corps Volunteer and
16 Volunteer Coordinator in Kingston, Jamaica, where he developed physical activity programs
17 and created green space opportunities in inner-city Kingston parks; and

18 WHEREAS, he traveled to Japan to serve as an educational consultant for the Japanese
19 government in Chiba Prefecture, teaching English in Japanese middle schools, and played
20 semi-pro basketball for the Saitama Broncos; and

21 WHEREAS, Mr. Brooks moved to Atlanta, Georgia, in 2005 to work as a Physical Activity
22 Fellow in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Division of Nutrition and

23 Physical Activity, where he promoted the use of parks and recreation facilities as access
24 points for physical activity and provided technical assistance to national partners promoting
25 physical activity with a focus on people of color; and

26 WHEREAS, he worked as a program officer for the Arthur M. Blank Family Foundation,
27 managing Inspiring Spaces, an initiative aimed at developing a system of great green spaces
28 in Atlanta; and

29 WHEREAS, Mr. Brooks founded Brooks Creative Consulting before his passing to work on
30 projects that would benefit his community; and

31 WHEREAS, in honor of Mr. Brooks's memory and legacy, his brother-in-law, tennis coach
32 Jake Lester, will attempt to break the Guinness World Record for the longest tennis coaching
33 marathon; and

34 WHEREAS, with the current record standing at 60 consecutive half-hour lessons, Coach
35 Lester hopes to raise funds and awareness for asthma research by coaching 72 consecutive
36 half-hour lessons, to be completed on what would have been Mr. Brooks's 36th birthday,
37 March 13, 2010; and

38 WHEREAS, Mr. Brooks gave inspiration to others with his optimistic outlook on life, his
39 deep concern for others, and his dedicated efforts to make a difference in this world and, by
40 the example he made of his life, he made this world a better place in which to live.

41 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
42 the members of this body join in honoring the life and memory of Mr. Joseph Daniel "Jody"
43 Brooks and recognize the asthma research fundraiser held in honor of his persevering spirit.

44 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
45 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the family of Mr. Joseph
46 Daniel "Jody" Brooks.